



5 STAR

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IKE Weather

Today

High: 50
Low: 39
Sunrise: 0643
Sunset: 1646
Partly Cloudy



Tomorrow

High: 48
Low: 38
Sunrise: 0642
Sunset: 1648
Partly Cloudy



IKE Crew Successfully Completes Missile Exercise

By MCSN Nathan Parde
—5 Star Staff Writer

Two NATO RTM-7P Sea Sparrow missiles launched from the star-board side of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) during a live-fire missile exercise yesterday.

The purpose of this exercise was to test IKE's combat readiness and measure the accuracy of a newly upgraded weapons system.

"We have to certify the weapons system and make sure we are safe to go into harms way and defend our ship," said Fire Controlman 2nd Class (SW/AW) Joseph Tsicouris, IKE's NATO Sea Sparrow work center supervisor. "Coming out of the yards, we received new NATO Sea Sparrow upgrade software. With every new upgrade, we have to make sure it is operable and efficient."

IKE's previous live-fire missile exercise took place in December 2005 and was a successful



A NATO Sea Sparrow missile is launched during a live-fire missile exercise. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jon Dasbach.

evolution. Thursday's exercise used a different type of missiles than in the previous operation.

"We used telemetry missiles in place of live warheads this time. They tell us how close we got and provide various data for us to record and see how the system performed vice the warhead that we just blew it up. It gives us more insight and information on how we did than in previous efforts," said Tsicouris.

Combat Systems Department's CS-7 Division was largely responsible for the successful execution of the exercise.

"Our division loves this kind of thing because we all get involved. That's basically our job as FCs; to shoot missiles and defend the ship. It's a great opportunity for us to actually perform that live instead of in a simulation. There's nothing like the real thing," said Tsicouris. ★

Sports Corner

Japanese Are Irked by U.S. Interest in Pitcher

By Alan Schwarz

—Courtesy of the Times Digest

As the first high-profile Japanese baseball prospect to turn down his nation's leagues to entertain offers from United States-based Major League Baseball teams, Junichi Tazawa has found himself straining relations between baseball entities on two continents, with accusations of talent raiding and defiance of decades-long understandings.

Many Japanese baseball officials are outraged that United States teams are courting Tazawa, a hard-throwing right-handed pitcher, because they insist it is long-established practice for amateurs like him to be strictly off limits to major league clubs. Even some American general managers, including the Yankees' Brian Cashman, agree.

Major League Baseball officials maintain that their protocol agreement with their Japanese counterparts, Nippon Professional Baseball, does not forbid either league from courting amateur talent from the other's nation.

The Japanese major leagues have already seen established stars leave for American clubs, and amateurs following Tazawa's path away from those leagues could further hurt the leagues' long-term viability.

After pitching for his high school team in the port city of Yokohama, Tazawa was not drafted by the 12 Japanese major league organizations.

His only offer was to pitch for Japan Oil in the industrial league, a workers' minor league unaffiliated with the Japanese majors. He has been there ever since.

Tazawa improved in the industrial leagues and, at an amateur tournament in Taiwan last November, had his fastball clocked on the scoreboard as high as 97 miles an hour. Scouts in the stands, some of whom were from the United States, expressed interest in Tazawa to Japan Oil's manager, Hideaki Okubo. Okubo encouraged Tazawa to consider the rare opportunity of signing directly with a Major League Baseball team.

Fearful that Tazawa's signing would encourage more Japanese amateurs to follow him, Nippon Professional Baseball recently passed a rule that requires any amateur who jumps to a major league team to sit out two or three years before being able to return to play in Japan.

Yet Tazawa has no intention of reconsidering his decision. "I'm looking forward to signing with an American team and seeing what I can do," he said.

Wednesday's NBA Game Scores

Atlanta 91, Washington 87
 Toronto 101, Miami 95
 Detroit 96, Cleveland 89
 L.A. Clippers 108, Oklahoma City 88
 Sacramento 105, New Orleans 96
 Minnesota 102, Philadelphia 96
 Dallas 96, Houston, 86
 Denver 91, San Antonio 81

Questions of the Day



BMR

- (1) What is the First Substitute Pennant?

EAWS



- (2) What is ICCS?

ESWS



- (3) What is the maximum pressure allowable on a soft patch?

Answers

- (3) 150 PSI.
 (2) Integrated Catapult Control System.
 (1) Flag Officer Absentee.

IKE's Religious Ministries Department Hosts Adopt-a-Sailor Program for Sailors during Holiday Season

By MC3(SW/AW) Holly Whiffill
—5 Star Staff Writer

The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower's (CVN 69) Religious Ministries Department is hosting the Adopt-a-Sailor program for the Sailors that may find themselves alone during the holidays.

"The Adopt-a-Sailor program provides Sailors with a home away from home for the holidays on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Sailors will have some place to go for dinner so they are not stuck on the ship. It's some place where they can be safe and have a warm, friendly environment," said Religious Program Specialist 3rd Class (SW) Timothy Smith, IKE's Adopt-a-Sailor program coordinator.

Sailors can visit the library to sign up. Forms will also be posted at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation counter.

Smith said he is looking for families within the Hampton Roads area, preferably in Virginia Beach or Norfolk because it is closer to Naval Station Norfolk. The target families are military families recommended to IKE through Ombudsmen, fleet and family readiness groups and local churches.



Religious Program Specialist 3rd Class (SW) Timothy Smith goes over Adopt-a-Sailor applications. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Nathan Parde.

"We want families that are comfortable with the military or have an understanding of it," said Smith.

Smith said families and Sailors will be matched together by the Sailors that have privately owned vehicles and those that do not.

Lt. Carl Muehler, one of IKE's Chaplains, said he hopes to line Sailors with families and create a relationship that will extend past just one day.

"It's very positive," said Muehler. "People want to help out and support. The logistics of getting people signed up will be the

challenging part, but I think it will be a good program."

Sailors are required to provide the families with a written biography of themselves along with an IKE gift of gratitude such the ship's patch, button or cover. Sponsor families will also receive a letter of thanks from the commanding officer, Religious Ministries Department and the Sailor.

The deadline for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is Dec. 5. If anyone is interested in the Adopt-a-Sailor program or for more information, contact RP3(SW) Smith at J-Dial 6450. ★

Family Readiness Fair

A pre-deployment brief and resource fair for IKE Sailors and their families will be held Dec. 4 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in hangar bay 2. The family readiness fair is designed to help the crew and our families prepare for the upcoming deployment and advise of the many programs and resources available.

IKE's Missiles - Right on Target



Two NATO RTM-7P Sea Sparrow missiles were launched yesterday during a live-fire missile exercise aboard IKE. The purpose of this exercise was to test IKE's combat readiness and measure the accuracy of a newly-upgraded weapons system. U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialists 3rd Class Jon Dasbach, Zulema Sotelo and Patrick Gearhiser.

SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Electrician's Mate 3rd Class
Christopher Stover

Security Department

Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Christopher Stover, 22, graduated from Leland and Gray High School in New Fane, Vermont.

He joined the Navy Aug. 31, 2005. He joined hoping to better his future and prepare him for the rest of his life. Currently aboard IKE, Stover is TAD to the Security Department.

Stover recently passed the enlisted surface warfare test and is working towards both warfare qualifications before deployment. He is also trying to cross rate to the Cryptologic Technician Network rating in the future.

After the Navy, Stover would like to earn his Bachelor's degree in an engineering field.

In his spare time, Stover snowboards and skates when he can.

Safety Standdown

A safety standdown brief will air throughout the day Monday on SITE TV beginning at 9 a.m. There will also be an all hands safety standdown in the hangar bay Monday with the commanding officer and safety officer.

Around the Fleet

Storekeeper, Postal Clerk Ratings to Merge into Logistic Specialist Rating

By MC3 Devin Thorpe

Courtesy of Navy Newsstand
MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) – Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Gary Roughead, has approved the merger of the storekeeper (SK) and postal clerk (PC) ratings to the logistics specialist (LS) rating, according to a Navy message released Nov. 17.

The conversion from SK and PC ratings to LS officially begins Oct. 1, 2009 for all active-duty Sailors and Reserve component E-6 and above according to NAVADMIN 326/08. Conversion for Reserve component E-1 through E-5 begins April 1, 2010.

The SK rating badge will be used to represent the new LS rating. All PC personnel are required to convert uniform rating badges to the SK

rating badge no later than Oct. 1, 2011.

"Over the past several years, the postal clerk rating has been shrinking. We went from having an enlisted authorization of almost 1,000 people, and now we're down to 645. It's at a point now that we're losing billets faster than we lose people, which stifles promotion," said Master Chief Postal Clerk (SW/AW) Ron Guyton, the Navy's technical advisor for the supply ratings.

The rating merger overall will benefit the Sailors more than two separate rates would, said Guyton.

As an element of the Navy's total force strategy, this merger will capitalize on the knowledge, skills and abilities found in the two ratings and apply them toward a unified mission according to the NAVADMIN.



Postal Clerk 3rd Class Blaine Character organizes the mail for the crew of the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71). U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class John K. Hamilton.

Now Playing on IKE Movies

Channel 5

9 a.m. *Be Kind Rewind*
 11 a.m. *Daddy Day Camp*
 1 p.m. *Charlie's Angels*
 3 p.m. *Be Kind Rewind*
 5 p.m. *Daddy Day Camp*
 7 p.m. *Training*
 8:30 p.m. *Happy Feet*
 10 p.m. *Charlie's Angels*
 12 a.m. *Be Kind Rewind*
 2 a.m. *Daddy Day Camp*
 4 a.m. *Charlie's Angels*

Channel 6

9 a.m. *Get Smart*
 11 a.m. *Alfie*
 1 p.m. *Garden State*
 3 p.m. *Get Smart*
 5 p.m. *Alfie*
 7 p.m. *Training*
 8:30 p.m. *Breach*
 10 p.m. *Garden State*
 12 a.m. *Get Smart*
 2 a.m. *Alfie*
 4 a.m. *Garden State*

Channel 7

9 a.m. *Assault on Precinct 13*
 11 a.m. *Ghost Rider*
 1 p.m. *King Arthur*
 3 p.m. *Assault on Precinct 13*
 5 p.m. *Ghost Rider*
 7 p.m. *Training*
 8:30 p.m. *The Descent*
 10 p.m. *King Arthur*
 12 a.m. *Assault on Precinct 13*
 2 a.m. *Ghost Rider*
 4 a.m. *King Arthur*

Around the World

Iran Now Has Enough Nuclear Fuel for Bomb

By William Broad

—Courtesy of the Times Digest

Iran has now produced roughly enough nuclear material to make, with added purification, a single atom bomb, according to nuclear experts analyzing the latest report from global atomic inspectors.

The figures detailing Iran's progress were contained in a routine update Wednesday from the International Atomic Energy Agency, which has been conducting inspections of the country's main nuclear facility at Natanz. The report concluded that as of early this month, Iran has made 630 kilograms, or about 1,390 pounds, of low-enriched uranium.

Several experts said that was enough for a bomb, but that Iran would have to take a series of additional steps. Not only would it have to breach its international agreements and kick out the inspectors, it also would have to further purify the fuel and put it into a credible warhead design.

"They clearly have enough material for a bomb," said Richard L. Garwin, a nuclear physicist who helped invent the hydrogen bomb. "They know how to do the enrichment. Whether they know how to design a bomb, well, that's another matter."

While some officials have threatened to bar inspectors, Iran has made no such moves, and many experts inside the Bush administration and

the I.A.E.A. believe that it would avoid the risk of attempting a "nuclear breakout" until it possessed a larger uranium supply.

Even so, the report underscores the magnitude of the problem President-elect Barack Obama will inherit on Jan. 20: an Iranian program that has not only solved many problems of uranium enrichment, but that can also now credibly claim to possess enough material to make a weapon if negotiations with Europe and the United States break down.

U.S. intelligence agencies have said Iran could make a bomb sometime between 2009 and 2015. A national intelligence estimate made public late last year concluded that around the end of 2003, after long effort, Iran had halted work on designing an actual weapon. But enriching uranium, and obtaining enough material to build a weapon, is considered the most difficult part of the process.

The atomic agency said Tehran's main enrichment plant is now feeding uranium into about 3,800 centrifuges. That count is the same as in the agency's last quarterly report, in September. Iran began installing the centrifuges in early 2007.

But the new report's total of 630 kilograms — an increase of about 150 — shows that Iran has been making steady progress in accumulating material to make nuclear fuel.



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